

CLAIMS:

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1. A system comprising:  
an interface of a target application, the interface comprising a plurality of operations to be selected by a user;  
a monitoring unit configured to monitor data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the interface by the user, and to generate a log of the monitored data;  
a communicating device configured to communicate the log of the monitored data.

Sub E1  
2. A system according to Claim 1, wherein the target application is a software application and the interface is a display screen of the software application.

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3. A system according to Claim 1, wherein the target application is an image forming device and the interface is an operation panel of the image forming device.

4. A system according to Claim 1, wherein the target application is an appliance and the interface is an operation panel of the appliance.

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5. A system according to Claim 1, wherein the communicating device sends the log of the monitored data when the user exits the target application.

6. A system according to Claim 1, further comprising a setting unit configured to set a number of sessions of the target application to be executed by the user prior to the communicating device communicating the log of the monitored data.

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7. A system according to any one of Claims 1-6, wherein the communicating device communicates the log of the monitored data by Internet mail.

Sub B  
8. A system comprising:  
interface means of a target application means, the interface means for providing a

plurality of operations to be selected by a user;

monitoring means for monitoring data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the interface means by the user, and for generating a log of the monitored data;

communicating means for communicating the log of the monitored data.

5 Sub E1 9. A system according to Claim 8, wherein the target application means is a software application and the interface means is a display screen of the software application.

10 10. A system according to Claim 8, wherein the target application means is an image forming device and the interface means is an operation panel of the image forming device.

10 11. A system according to Claim 8, wherein the target application means is an appliance and the interface means is an operation panel of the appliance.

12. A system according to Claim 8, wherein the communicating means sends the log of the monitored data when the user exits the target application means.

15 13. A system according to Claim 8, further comprising a setting means for setting a number of sessions of the target application means to be executed by the user prior to the communicating means communicating the log of the monitored data.

14. A system according to any one of Claims 8-13, wherein the communicating means communicates the log of the monitored data by Internet mail.

Sub 3 20 15. A method of monitoring usage of an interface of a target application, the interface including a plurality of operations to be selected by a user, comprising the steps of:  
monitoring data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the interface by the user;  
generating a log of the monitored data; and  
communicating the log of the monitored data.

16. A method according to Claim 15, wherein the target application is a software application and the interface is a display screen of the software application.

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17. A method according to Claim 15, wherein the target application is an image forming device and the interface is an operation panel of the image forming device.

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18. A method according to Claim 15, wherein the target application is an appliance and the interface is an operation panel of the appliance.

19. A method according to Claim 15, wherein the communicating step sends the log of the monitored data when the user exits the target application.

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20. A method according to Claim 15, further comprising a step of setting a number of sessions of the target application to be executed by the user prior to the communicating device communicating the log of the monitored data.

21. A method according to any one of Claims 15-20, wherein the communicating step communicates the log of the monitored data by Internet mail.

Sub 5/34  
22. A computer program product comprising:  
a computer storage medium and a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for causing a computer to monitor a user's usage of an interface of a target application, the interface comprising a plurality of operations to be selected by a user, comprising:

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a first computer code device configured to monitor data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the interface by the user, and configured to generate a log of the monitored data;  
and

a second computer code device configured to communicate the log of the monitored data.

23. A computer program product according to Claim 22, wherein the target application is a software application and the interface is a display screen of the software application.

24. A computer program product according to Claim 22, wherein the target application is an image forming device and the interface is an operation panel of the image forming device.

25. A computer program product according to Claim 22, wherein the target application is an appliance and the interface is an operation panel of the appliance.

26. A computer program product according to Claim 22, wherein the second computer code device is further configured to send the log of the monitored data when the user exits the target application.

27. A computer program product according to Claim 22, further comprising a third computer code device configured to set a number of sessions of the target application to be executed by the user prior to the second computer code device communicating the log of the monitored data.

28. A computer program product according to any one of Claims 22-27, wherein the second computer code device is further configured to communicate the log of the monitored data by Internet mail.